GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:59
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007
THREAT BY AL QAEDA
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news-item in the Statesman dated July 20, 2007 regarding the activities of Al Qaeda operatives and their plans to blow up important installations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has since taken any steps to counter such threats; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OFSTATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 59 FOR ANSWER ON 14.08.2007 REGARDING THREAT BY AL QAEDA

(a) to (d) : Yes, Sir. A call was received in the Police Control Room of Delhi Police as reported in the news item in question. During the course of investigation, one person namely Mintoo Kumar Mehto s/o Ramayan Mehto r/o House No. B-32, Gali No.-3, Panchsheel Enclave, Vikas Nagar, Uttam Nagar, Delhi was apprehended. A case FIR No. 58/2007 u/s 506/507 IPC PS Special Cell, Delhi dated 21.7.07 was registered by Delhi Police and the accused Mintoo Kumar Mehto was arrested. Investigations have revealed that this person had no links with Al Qaeda and this was a hoax call made with intent to create panic.

The Government remains firmly committed to counter the challenge posed by terrorism. Towards this end, a multi-pronged strategy is being pursued in close conjunction with the State Governments, which involves measures to check infiltration from across the borders, deployment of central security forces in areas prone to terrorist's violence, continuous vigilance and strengthening of security arrangements in vulnerable areas and around vital installations, sharing of intelligence, strengthening of State Police forces and upgradation of their capabilities to deal with terrorist activities through the schemes of Police Modernisation, raising of India Reserve Battalions, etc. Efforts are also being made to strengthen bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation at the international level with the aim of combating terrorism through arrangements for Mutual Legal Assistance and Extradition Treaties, exchange of information and intelligence, etc.